AN HISTORY

Of the Twofold

Invention of the Cross,

WHEREON

Our **Saviour** was crucified.

Translated out of

An antient *Aramæan Biologist*.

Together with

An Account of the *Conversion* of the *Ethiopians*, out of *Abulpharagius's Ecclesiastical History*.

By *Dudley Loftus J. utriusq; Dr.*

Dublin, Printed *Anno* 1686

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BRITISH MUSEUM
38
6
9
127

Alla Sacra Real Matà di Maria Regina d' Inghilterra, Scotia, Francia ed Irlandia.

Sacra Reale Maestà,

NOn è conforme all' uſanza de' ſavi d' indirizzar ſe ſteſſi alla Matà delle Sovrane Regine, con gran preambulo di parole, ò favellare con eſſo loro à briglia ſciolta; adunque, ciò ſolo io voglio dire, che con l'innata Benignità ſua, ella ſia per darmi ſperanza, che queſta Hiſtoria ſpiegante la Bandiera di Chriſto noſtro Signore, non ſolo ſia per eſſerle grata, ma altre sì ac-

cettata da lei come un testimonio della mia fedelissima Servitù, sempre mai pronta in cose di maggior momento, ed anche di volersi benignamente degnare di perdonarmi; se io sia stato così ardito di dedicar un tal libretto a V. Matà; sapendo io molto bene, che ancor che una gran Regina non possa sopportare cosa così disdicevole al suo decoro, come è la prolissità delle soverchie parole; potrà pur condonare la brevità, Dun obedientissimo ed obsequentissimo Servitore di

V. Maetà,

qual è il suo Vassallo

Dudleio Loftusio.

To the Reader.

READER,

THis *Hiſtory of the Croſs is here tranſlated out of an antient Oriental Manuſcript, tranſmitted about five years ſince from* Aleppo, *by Dr.* Robert Huntingdon, *now Provoſt of the Colledge of* Dublin, *unto the Biſhop of* Fernes *and* Leighlin, *then Provoſt of the ſame. It is contained in a Bialogie of Eaſtern Saints, written in a fair Eſtrangalar Character, wherein the* Aramæans *uſually write matters of moſt precious concern. This Cha-*

Character hath been of antient rather than of common uſe, and after it was once diſcontinued for the ſpace of an hundred years, was reſtored (as Gregorius Maphrinus *of the Eaſt ſaith) in the year* 1299. *by* Mar Johannes *Biſhop of* Carthaman, *who learnt it by ſearch and comparing of Manuſcripts, and taught it unto his Nephews; one of whom,* Emanuel *by name, arrived at the higheſt perfection in the writing of that Character that ever any one attained unto, as the ſaid* Maphrinus *in his* Eccleſiaſtical Hiſtory *reports.*

In the next place I am to tell thee,

thee, that though many pious Hiſtorians, and many other primitive Eccleſiaſtical Authors, who have written the Lives of Saints, and publiſhed Narratives of ſacred things, were careful to repreſent undoubted Miracles to Poſterity, as the higheſt motives of Belief, and others have made bold, even to temerity and preſumption, in ſwelling up their Hiſtory above a due ſize, with the recital of queſtionable, if not falſe and incredible Miracles, ſeeming by the beſt conſtruction that can be made of their ſo doing, to endeavour, under the notion of a pious Couſenage, to obtrude the belief of them

them on the credulity of ſome ignorant Ages not long ſince paſt, which are now ſhamefully diſcredited by a more diſcerning Generation, and ſeem to be exploded by the preſent Biſhop of Rome, *who (as is given forth) rates queſtionable Miracles as falſe Money, put in to fill the Bag, though it adds little or nothing to the value of the Sum; but ſuch is the likelihood of this Narrative, ſo well agreeing with the Conſent and Approbation of other authentick Writers, and the Credit of the Author, ſo ſober and grave in what he relates concerning this Subject, that I ſhall not need to argue for the Belief*

Belief of what he delivers; only this obſerve, that this Author erects the Scheme of the Croſs in a ſituation as far diſtant from temerary Superſtition, as from diſdainful Neglect; and though the Croſs doth not bear in this Hiſtory ſo high an Elevation, as it doth in the Romiſh Ritual, it can give no diſcontent to that Church, who can find nothing therein blameable; nor to the Church of England, *with whom the Signature of the Croſs is of ſo celebrated a uſe in the Sacrament of Baptiſm. It is poſſible, that they who think the uſe of the Croſs in Baptiſm ſuperſtitious, may be*

apt

apt to exclaim againſt me, as Popiſhly inclined; but I, who have always followed the rule of the Italian *Proverb* [Fa bene e laſcia dire] *need not apologize for what I think well done.*

A NARRATIVE

Concerning

The Wood of the Crofs

OF OUR

REDEEMER,

Setting forth in what manner it was revealed, and ſhewed unto Men.

PATRONICA, the Wife of *Claudius Cæſar*, whom *Tiberius* conſtituted the ſecond of his Empire,

having been at *Rome*, when *Simon Cephas* reſided there, and obſerving the Miracles and Wonders which he wrought in the Name of Jeſus Chriſt, ſhe renounced the Heatheniſm of her forefathers, as alſo the Idols which they had worſhiped, and did believe in our Lord Chriſt, and aroſe conſiderately, and deſcended from *Rome* to *Hieruſalem*, and her two Sons and one Virgin Daughter accompanied her; and *Hieruſalem* went out to meet her, and they received her with great Honour: and *James* was made there a Biſhop,

Biſhop, and Commander in the Church which was built there. And when he heard for what cauſe the Empreſs came to *Hieruſalem*, he repaired unto her, at the Court of *Herods* Palace, where ſhe lodged. And when ſhe ſaw him, ſhe entertained him gladly with great rejoycing, as ſhe had received *Simon Cephas*, and he ſhewed unto her Miracles and wondrous works, as *Simon* had done: and ſhe ſaid unto him, Shew unto me *Golgotha*, where Chriſt was crucified, and the Wood of the Croſs whereon Chriſt

was hung by the Jews, and the Sepulchre wherein he was laid. *James* ſaid unto her, Thoſe three things which thou wouldſt ſee, are under the Cuſtody of the Jews, and they keep them ſhut up from us, and they do not permit us to repair to the place where they are, to pray before the Sepulchre, or at *Golgotha*, neither will they give us the Wood whereon he was crucified. And moreover, they perſecute us, to the end we may not teach the Name of Chriſt; and many times they impriſon us.

And

And when the Empreſs heard this, ſhe commanded, and they brought before her *Honia* the Son of *Hanan* the Prieſt, and *Gorho* the Son of *Kiphas*, and *Judah Varibedſhalam* the Chief of the Jews, and ſhe ſaid unto them, Deliver *Golgotha*, and the Sephulchre, and the Wood of the Croſs unto *James*, and thoſe who ſhall accompany him; and afterwards ſhe went unto the Sepulchre of our Lord, and found therein three Croſſes, the one of our Lord, and two of the Thieves: and at the time that ſhe came un-

to the Sepulchre, her Sons being with her, her Virgin Daughter fell down, and died without Pain or Sickneſs; and when ſhe ſaw that her Daughter was dead, ſhe immediately drew nigh, and worſhiped, praying in the Sepulchre, and in her Prayer ſaid, Our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, who gave himſelf for man, and was crucified in this place, and aroſe, and raiſed with him many from the dead; the crucifying Jews, and Gentiles will hear, that I have renounced their Images, and their Worſhip, and will triumph

triumph over me, ſcoffing at me, and will ſay, theſe things happened unto her, by reaſon that ſhe renounced the Gods whom ſhe worſhiped, and profeſſed Chriſt. Thou, O Lord, have a regard unto thy holy Name, that it be not blaſphemed in this place. And when ſhe had thus ſaid, her eldeſt Son came unto her, and ſaid, Hear what I have to ſay before thy Majeſty, that I am ſo perſwaded in my thoughts, that the ſudden Death of my Siſter was not void of Providence, but that God might be magnified by

a wonderful act. For behold, we entered into this Sepulchre, and found therein three Croſſes, not knowing which of them was the Croſs whereon our Saviour was crucified: and I am of opinion, that by the Death of my Siſter we ſhall be able to know which of them is it. Then the Empreſs (though much afflicted at that time) underſtood that the Boy had ſpoken wiſely, and rightly, and ſhe took in her hand one of thoſe Croſſes, and placed it on the Corps of her Daughter, and ſaid in Prayer, Chriſt, who

who ſhewed wonderful Works in this place, if this be thy Croſs, ſhew thy Power, and revive my Daughter; and let thy Name be glorified, and let thy Worſhipers rejoyce, and let thy Foes be put to ſhame. And when ſhe had expected one hour, ſhe took the ſecond Croſs and laid it on the Corps, and prayed again. And after ſhe had expected one hour, ſhe took up the third Croſs, and as ſhe would have lifted up her eyes to Heaven, and have beſought her Lord, and before ſhe ſpake, as the Wood

touched

touched her Corps, ſhe revived, and aroſe immediately. And the Empreſs, when ſhe ſaw the Miracle that was done, ſhe magnified the Lord with praiſes, and commanded that a great and ſtately Building ſhould be raiſed over *Golgotha*, and over the Sepulchre, and that it ſhould be a place for Divine Adminiſtration. And the Jews, who rejoyced at firſt, turned their Joy into Sorrow, and the Report thereof ſpread it ſelf into remote places, and whereſoever the Apoſtles had preached it.

And

And when the Empreſs returned unto *Rome*, ſhe declared before *Claudius* the Emperor what things were done; and he gave command that the Jews ſhould be driven out of *Rome*, and from the Regions of *Italy*.

Furthermore alſo, in the days of *Trajan* the wicked Emperor, he commanded, that whoſoever did aſſent unto the Doctrine of Chriſt ſhould receive extreme Puniſhment; and the Horn of the Jewiſh Nation was exalted, and they began to torment the Chriſtians, as

did

did their forefathers in the Prophet. And they gathered themſelves together againſt *Simon*, who was made Biſhop in *Hieruſalem*; and they caſt their hands upon him, and uſed him contumeliouſly; foraſmuch as the people who profeſſed Chriſt were not yet much multiplied: and the Jews, who tormented *Simon*, took away the Wood of the Croſs of our Saviour (and this *Simon* was the Son of *Cleophas*,) and the Jews took counſel to hide it in the earth, that the Chriſtians might not any more worſhip Chriſt; and

and this *Simon* was the ſecond Biſhop that ſat in the Church of *Hieruſalem.*

And when they took away the Croſs of our Lord, he was neceſſitated to deliver it unto thoſe Jews, and they digged in the earth about twenty cubits, and hid it, and it was hidden in the Earth from the time that *Patronica* the Empreſs gave it unto *James* the Biſhop during the days of fifteen Biſhops; the firſt of them was this *James*, the Brother of our Lord, *Simon*, *Juſtus*, *Zaccheus*, *Tobno*, *Benjamin*, *John*, *Matthew*, *Philip*.

Philip, *Diſincus*, *Juſtus*, *Levi*, *Ephraim*, and the laſt of the fifteen was *Judas*, in whoſe days the Croſs aſcended the ſecond time from the earth.

Furthermore, it is declared, how *Helen* the Queen, and the Mother of *Conſtantine* the Faithful Emperour, found it in the ſeventh year of the Reign of *Conſtantine*, in the month of the ſecond *January*, the Forces of the *Babarians* were muſtered on the Bank of a certain River called *Danubie*, with deſign to paſs over, and deſtroy the whole Dominion of

of the *Roman* Empire; and the Forces of the *Barbarians* increaſing, *Conſtantine* ingaged in battel, and diſcomfited them; and on the day of the morning that they were to ingage in battel, at midnight, *Conſtantine* ſaw the Light of the Croſs, as glorious as an Angel, brighter than the Sun holding the ſame, and it illuminated the whole earth, and there were in it Letters of Stars, whoſe Compaction ſignified unto him by this ſign, *Thou ſhalt overcome.* And he awaked, and was much terrified, and reaſoned in his

his mind, of which of the Gods is this Sign, and he declared the Viſion which he ſaw unto the wiſe men of his Empire, and he commanded, that they ſhould make an Enſign like thereunto, and it should be born before him to the Battel, and they did ſo, and there was a mighty Battel on that day, and the *Barbarians* turned their backs, and he gave them a great blow, and ſuch as remained of them, he caſt them into Chains, and ſtraigtway he aſſembled all the Prelates, and demanded of them, to which of

of the Gods doth this Enſign belong, and they anſwered, Lord Emperour, this Enſign doth not belong to the terreſtrial Gods, whom we worſhip, but to the Hoſt of God from Heaven; and the Chriſtians were called at this time *Nazarites*, and they approached unto the Emperour, and ſaid unto him, Lord Emperour, this Enſign appertains unto Jeſus Chriſt the Son of the living God. And when he heard thoſe words, he ſent, and called for *Euſebius* Biſhop of *Rome*, and was in-

ſtructed by him concerning the coming of our Lord Jeſus into the world, and concerning his Conception, and Birth, and Original, his Crucifixion, his Reſurrection, and Aſcenſion into Heaven; and the Emperour believed gladly with his whole heart, and with his whole mind; and he aroſe, and was baptized, he, and his Mother, and all his Palace; and then he perſwaded his Mother, and ſent her with *Euſebius* the Biſhop, and a great Train of *Romans*, and he commanded his Mother diligently

gently to inquire for the Wood of the Croſs, and that ſhe ſhould build a Church in *Golgotha*: And from the Reſurrection of our Saviour, until the ſecond finding of the Croſs had paſſed three hundred & one years, and in the month of *Auguſt*, on the twenty and eighth day thereof, the Empreſs ſet forth on her Journey to *Hieruſalem* to inquire after the Wood of the Croſs, and that ſhe might leave behind her a Report that ſhould laſt for ever.

And ſhe entered into *Hieru-*

ſalem in great pomp, and ſhe gave commandment, that all the Jews who remained about *Hieruſalem* ſhould be aſſembled together, and *Hieruſalem* was almoſt waſte; and about thirty thouſand men being aſſembled, ſhe ſaid unto them, I am taught from Books of the Prophets, that you are the Seed of the Righteous, and that God loved you more than all Nations, and that he was to ſend unto you his Son, the Splendor of his Glory, and the Splendor of his Eſſence. Ye underſtood him not,

not, but choſe Darkneſs inſtead of Light; and therefore chooſe me from amongſt you men, Scribes, and expert in the Law, who may be able to return me an Anſwer concerning whatſoever thing I ſhall demand of them, and they departed from before her with great fear, and choſe from amongſt them about two thouſand wiſe men and Scribes out of the City, and Villages of *Judea*; and at their return they came unto the Empreſs, and ſaid unto her, Theſe are the

learned men which we have, and are expert in the Law, then she confidently ſaid unto them, Are ye able to inform me of whatſoever thing I shall ask you, leſt ye dye a bad Death deſervedly by my hand? Return again, chooſe for me from amongſt you ſuch as are moſt expert in the Law, and they went and choſe one thouſand men.

And again, she ſaid unto them, Obſerve thoſe who are the wiſeſt amongſt you, and chooſe for me thirty men. Have ye not heard what *E-*

ſaias

ſaias ſaid? *A Child is born unto us, and a Son is given unto us, whoſe Mother Man hath not known.*

And again, *David* ſaid, *I have placed the Lord before me for ever.* And moreover *Eſaias* ſaid concerning you, *I exalted the Children of the Houſe, and they rebelled againſt me; the Ox knoweth his Maſter*, and ſo forth.

And now behold, ye are preſerved from my hand for two hours, obſerve, and inform me of whatſoever I ſhall ask you, let the blindneſs of your forefathers ſuf-

fice ye the Children of *Iſrael*, who ſaid of Jeſus, He is not God, though the Law and the Prophets teſtifie of him, that he is God over all. And the Jews anſwered, and ſaid, We have read the Law and the Prophets, that they might inform us concerning this very thing whereof we have been interrogated by thee, and we have anſwered unto thee.

And again ſhe perſwaded them, ſaying, Go, and chooſe for me the wiſeſt amongſt you, who know Wiſdom; and they went out from be-

before her with fear, and ſaid amongſt themſelves, What a ſad thing is this which the Empreſs hath caſt among us! and one of them, whoſe name was *Judas*, anſwered and ſaid unto his Brethren, I am of opinion, that this queſtion, which the Empreſs demands of us concerning the **Wood of the Croſs**, whereon Jeſus was crucified by our Anceſtors, is, that ſhe may be revenged at our hands, and if none ſhall make it known, ſhe will deſtroy the Doctrine

which

which our forefathers have delivered unto us. For *Zaccheus*, who was Prieſt to *Simon* my Father, informed him of this thing, and my Father alſo when he was dying ſaid, I know, my Son, that when the time ſhall come, that the Croſs, whereon Jeſus was hung, ſhall be inquired after, thou art to reveal, and to give information thereof, leſt it deſtroy thee: For the Kingdom of the *Hebrews* will fail, and afterwards the Empire of thoſe who ſhall worſhip him who was hung upon

upon the Croſs ſhall prevail, and this ſhall govern the World.

And I ſaid unto my Father, If therefore you knew that he was Chriſt, wherefore did our forefathers lay hands upon him, and crucifie him? And he anſwered me, I knew well, my Son, that I never agreed in opinion with them, but at all times oppoſed them who did not believe in him. And I know, that when they crucified him, took him down, and laid him in the Sepulchre, he aroſe

aroſe the third day, and ſhewed himſelf to his Diſciples, and that for this cauſe *Stephen*, the Brother of my Father, believed in him, and began to teach the Jews in the Name of Jeſus, and for this reaſon they layed ſnares to intrap him, and they condemned him to be ſtoned to death, and he ſtretched forth his hands unto Heaven, and ſaid, My Lord receive my Spirit, and lay not this Sin to their charge. And theſe words my Father *Simon* commanded me to declare unto *Zaccheus*,

cheus his Prieſt, and this *Zaccheus* was the *Nicodemus* who came to Jeſus by night, and *Stephen* was his Companion. And behold, I ſubmit all theſe things unto you,; If the Empreſs ſhall interrogate us concerning the Croſs, what will ye that I ſay unto her? They ſaid unto him, Theſe words which thou ſpeakeſt, we have not heard from any but from thy ſelf; and if the queſtion ſhall be concerning the Croſs, thou knoweſt better than all of us, and thou alſo art informed of the place. And

And when they had ſaid thus, the Souldiers followed them, and ſaid, Ariſe, come away, for the Empreſs inquires for you: and when they came, they ſtood before her, and ſhe interrogated them concerning many things, and they ſaid not unto her any thing that was true; wherefore ſhe commanded that they ſhou'd be caſt into a fiery Furnace, and they out of fear took hold of *Judas*, and preſented him unto her, and they ſaid, This man was the Son of a Prophet, and he is juſt, and

and more skilful in the Law than we are, and he will inform thee concerning whatſoever thou ſhalt deſire; for in this we ſhall all be Witneſſes againſt him. Then ſhe commanded, that all ſhould be diſmiſſed, and that *Judas* only ſhould be apprehended: and the Empreſs ſaid unto him, There are placed before thee Death and Life, and chooſe which of them thou wilt. *Judas* anſwered, What man is there, or what perſon is there, who having Bread ſet before him, will take a

Stone,

Stone, and eat inſtead thereof? And the Empreſs ſaid unto him, If therefore thou wouldſt live in the Earth, or Heaven, tell me where they have hidden the Croſs of Chriſt. *Judas* ſaid, as ancient Memorials declare, this thing was done about two hundred years ſince, more or leſs, and we being Children of this time, from whence ſhould we know it?

The Empreſs ſaid unto him, Behold, thou haſt confeſſed before me, that ye have Books of Memorials

touching

touching theſe things.

Judas ſaid unto her, I did not ſpeak of my ſelf before thy Majeſty, and this Hiſtory may be known out of Books, but we have no Hiſtories.

And the Empreſs ſaid, We have the Word of Truth in the Goſpel which ccurately declares where he was crucified; but do thou only ſhew me the place which is called *Golgotha*; and I will command, by my Power, the diſcovery of the the particular place; and I am confident, that I ſhall

obtain the deſire, by which I ſhall live.

Judas ſaid, Neither do I know that place.

The Empreſs ſaid unto him, I know, that unleſs thou wilt confeſs, and ſpeak the truth unto me, I will take away thy Life by the torment of Hunger and Thirſt. And ſhe commanded, that they ſhould caſt him into a dry Pit, and keep him for the ſpace of ſeven days, without giving him any Meat.

Then after ſeven days *Judas* cried out with a loud voice,

voice, and ſaid, Raiſe me out of this pit, and I will ſhew you the place where the Croſs of Chriſt is.

Then the Empreſs commanded, and they took him out, and he went to the very place, although he was not well aſſured that it was there.

And *Judas* raiſed his voice in the *Hebrew* tongue, and ſaid, Lord, who made Heaven and Earth at his beck, if it be thy pleaſure, that Jeſus the Son of *Mary* ſhould reign, perform for us this Miracle, as thou didſt hear *Mo-*

ſes thy Servant, & didſt ſhew unto him the Bones of *Joſeph*; ſo ſhew unto us this hidden Treaſure, and cauſe to aſcend from this place a perfume of rich Odour, that I alſo may believe in the Croſs of thy Chriſt, and may declare that he is a King for ever.

And when *Judas* prayed, ſtraightway there was thunder in that place, and much Incenſe of Aromaticks evaporated on every ſide, and great wonder took hold on *Judas*, and he clapped his hands together, and lifted up

up his voice, and ſaid, Thou art truly Chriſt the Redeemer of the World, I beg of thee, O Chriſt, make me equal, and join me, and bring me to thy Servant *Stephen* my Brother.

And when *Judas* had ſaid theſe words, he took up Iron, and he feared as *Abraham* did, and he began to digg, and then he cauſed thoſe who were commanded by the Empreſs to draw nigh, and when they deſcended about twenty cubits, they found three Croſſes hidden, and *Judas* took

them up, and brought them to the faithful Empreſs.

Then ſhe ſaid unto him, Which of them is the Croſs of our Lord? He ſaid, I I do not know; the ſhe laid them in the middle of the City, and when ſhe expected to ſee in them the Glory of God, and it being the ninth hour of that day, behold, there was a young man dead, whom they carried on a Bier, going to his Sepulchre, and when he ſaw this, he immediately rejoyced, and ſaid unto them, Now, my Lady, thou ſhalt

ſee

ſee the Power of the Croſs, and the Glory that is hid therein. Then he made them to let down the Bier, and he took up every one of the Croſſes, and laid them on the Bier, and when the third Croſs came to be placed on the Corps, the young man aroſe immediately. Then *Satan*, the enemy, cryed with a loud voice, and ſaid, Who is this, which doth not permit me to take thoſe Souls that are mine? Wo is me by reaſon of thee, **Jeſus the Nazarene**! and for that thou haſt revealed

againſt me thy Croſs which was hidden: Wo is me from thee, *Judas*! what is this that thou haſt done againſt me? formerly thou madeſt the world to ſin by the hand of *Judas*, and now by the hand of *Judas*, behold I am perſecuted from hence. I know what I will do unto thee, thou great Perſecutor: For behold, another Emperour ſhall ariſe, who will forſake the Croſs, and will fulfil and perform my words, and I will deliver thee into his hands, and he ſhall bring down upon thee

thee dreadful Judgments; and thou out of bitter Torment ſhalt renounce him that was crucified.

Then *Judas* was comforted by the Holy Ghoſt, and ſaid, He who raiſed the dead will preſerve me from the infernal depth of flaming Fire.

And when the Empreſs heard theſe words, ſhe admired the Power of God, and the true Faith of *Judas*, and ſtrictly gave order concerning the **Wood of the Croſs**, and ſhe cauſed to be

be made for it a Cheſt of Silver, and put it therein, and depoſited it in that Church which was built in *Golgotha*: And ſhe called for *Euſebius* Biſhop of *Rome*, and he gave unto *Judas* the ſignature of Baptiſm, and called him by the baptiſmal name of *Kuriacus*, and laid upon him the Hand of a Biſhop, and placed him in the City of *Hieruſalem*; and then *Hellen* the Empreſs commanded, that the *Jews*, who did not believe in Chriſt, ſhould be perſecuted, and at that time the

Jews

Jews were driven from the land of *Hieruſalem.*

Moreover, *Kuriacus* made great inquiſition concerning the Nails of the Croſs, and he prayed unto God, and there appeared unto him a glorious Sign, like Lightening, on the place of the Croſs, and the Nails appeared in the Duſt; and he approached with reverence, and took them up, and preſented them to the faithful Empreſs, and ſhe reſolved in her mind, to make of them an Ornament

ment for the Emperours Armour, and for the Bridle of his Horſe; and ſhe ſent for a skilful Artificer, of a good report, and ſaid unto him, Take theſe Nails, and make a Signiture on the Emperours Armour, and on the Bridle of his Horſe, that it may be a Preſervative for the Emperour; for it behooved, that this Writing of the Prophet ſhould be fulfilled, that there ſhall be at that time on the Horſes Bridle **Holineſs to the Lord Almighty.**

Then

Then *Hellen* the faithful Empreſs reigned in *Hieruſalem*, and commanded, that there ſhould be a Commemoration of the Croſs on the fourteenth of *September*.

The Hiſtory concerning the Finding of the Holy Croſs is finiſhed, according as we are able.

Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Ghoſt now, and for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Who-

It is thought fit, as well for the ſatisfying of the Curious, as for the filling up of blank Paper, to give the following Account of the Converſion of the Ethiopians, *as it is found in* Abulpharagius *his Eccleſiaſtical Hiſtory, and tranſlated by* D. L. J. utriuſque Dr.

AT this time a certain orthodox Presbyter named *Julianus*, and a Miniſter of Pope *Dionyſius Alexandrinus*, had ſo great a zeal of affection

ction to the *Ethiopick* Nation of *Nubida*, that he endeavoured to convert them to the Faith; they being then *Gentiles*, and very troubleſom to the *Roman* Provinces, which when he had ſignified unto *Theodora* the Faithful Empreſs, he affected her with very great joy, and ſhe declared the matter to the Emperor, and beſought him that he would be ſolicitous with her for the ſending of *Julianus* thither; but the Emperor was more deſirous to ſend the Biſhop of *Chalcedon* on that Errand, and deſigned

ed Nuntioes, furniſhed with Gifts and Pomp, to the King of the *Nubidians*; which when the Empreſs perceived, ſhe ſent *Julianus* with ſpeed, and wrote an Epiſtle to *Docus Thebidenſis* of this tenor;

I and the King have determined with our ſelves to ſend Nuntioes unto the Nubidian *Nation; and behold, I, for my part, have ſent* Julianus, *and the Emperor he is to ſend others with greater ſolemnity of Pomp; but have you a care that this my Nuntio may have firſt acceſs, and make way for them.*

And

And *Docus* having read the Queens Letter, did as ſhe commanded him, and ſtayed the Kings Embaſſadors until *Julianus* came, who preſented the Letter of the Queen, and baptized the King & his Nobles, and informed them of the Schiſm which the *Chalcedonians* had made, and of the injuries wherewith they had affected holy men; how alſo they had determined a new Creed different from the *Nicene*: And the Emperors Embaſſadors being arrived, with Letters and Preſents, dehorted the

Nubidienſes, that they ſhould not adhere to baniſhed and condemned perſons; unto whom the King and his Nobles made anſwer, We have received this Honour from the Emperor, and we ſhall return double Honour unto him: nor will we adhere to Perſecutors, nor calumnious men: but foraſmuch as we have already received holy Baptiſm by the Miniſtry of this excellent man, we will not admit any other: and ſo the whole Nation of the *Chuſhites* was inſtructed in the Orthodox Faith, and ſub-

ſubjected themſelves to the See of *Alexandria*. And this *Julianus* remained for the ſpace of two years, preaching from the third hour to the tenth, veſted in a Linnen Surplice; he ſtood in ſubterraneal Caves abounding with water, and baptized there; for that there were not to be found pure waters above them

FINIS.